



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Madeleine PRIGENT, *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/559,595

Attorney Docket No.: Q58982

Confirmation No.: 3132

Group Art Unit: 1774

Filed: April 28, 2000

Examiner: Jill M. GRAY

For: AN OPTICAL FIBER CABLE HAVING IMPROVED PROPERTIES

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 19, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 6, please delete the third full paragraph, and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Figure 3 shows an optical fiber cable 30 for a land application, *i.e.* a cable that is designed to be buried. A plurality of tubes [21] 20 analogous to the tube 20 shown in Figure 2 are disposed around the periphery of a rod 31 that is often reinforced with glass fibers and that is in contact with a filling compound 32. The assembly is surrounded by metal armoring 33 covered by a sheath 34 which needs to have good mechanical properties, good fire resistance, and low permeability to water. The sheath 34 is essentially constituted by the covering material of the invention and made as described below.

Page 6, please delete the fifth full paragraph, and replace it with the following new paragraph:

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